

Attorney's Docket No. 5051-575

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Pre Amended A  
RUBBER  
2197102  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Paul D. Franzon, Stephen E. Mick, John M. Wilson  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith  
For: BURIED SOLDER BUMPS FOR AC-COUPLED MICROELECTRONIC  
INTERCONNECTS

November 29, 2001

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment before examining the present application. Pursuant to the rules for amendments under 37 C.F.R. §1.121, the specification has been amended herein using the replacement paragraphs format. The present amendment also includes a section entitled "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**" attached hereto.

**In the Specification:**

Page 14, line 26-Page 15, line 3, please enter the amended paragraph as follows:

AI  
Finally, due to a lack of a DC path, conventional driver and receiver circuits may not be preferred for embodiments of the present invention. In order to at least partially compensate for a lack of a DC path, it may be desirable to use Non-Return-to-Zero (NRZ) tolerant and/or other DC offset compensating receivers that can, for example, use feedback, so as to reduce or prevent the average DC shift that may occur over time when a long string of zeros or ones are sent. Such circuits have been used in optical transceivers, and may also be used with AC-coupled structures according to embodiments of the present invention. Moreover, as was described above, current mode signaling may be used which can provide advantages over voltage mode signaling. Current mode signaling can be faster as the input impedance of the receiver can be small. Also, it can be low noise, because there can be reduced di/dt and/or return path noise.